

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-6 and 8-12 are pending. The indication that claims 2-4 and 10-12 contain allowable subject matter is appreciated.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 5, 6, 8 and 9 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1 and 15 of U.S. Patent no. 6,840,735 to *Yaegashi et al.* This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants believe that the non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is in error because there is no common ownership between *Yaegashi et al.* and the instant application. That is, Terumo Kabushiki Kaisha and NTN are the named assignees in this application. Terumo Kabushiki Kaisha is the named assignee in *Yaegashi et al.* Thus, the non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection set forth in the Official Action is not appropriate. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

If any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: November 19, 2007

By:



Matthew L. Schneider  
Registration No. 32814

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404  
703 836 6620

Michael Britton  
Registration No. 47260